North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources



Technical Bulletin for N.C. General Stormwater Permit NCG190000



Technical Bulletin for NCG190000, Volume II

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What activities are covered by this general permit?

NCG190000 allows stormwater discharges associated with activities classified as establishments primarily engaged in: Operating Marinas [standard industrial classification (SIC) 4493] that provide vehicle maintenance activities, and Ship and Boat Building and Repairing [SIC 373]; and like activities deemed by the Division of Water Quality (DWQ) to be similar in the process and/or the exposure of raw materials, products, by -products, or waste materials.

• This general permit does not authorize discharges at the facility containing waste streams including, but not limited to, bilge and ballast water, cooling water, sanitary wastes, power and hand washing, blasting, sanding, and fish cleaning stations. A separate wastewater permit may be required for these and other similar wastewater discharges.

What are the key permit requirements?

- Implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) (refer to Part II, Section A).
- Provide secondary containment for all bulk storage of liquid materials (refer to Part II, Section A, 2.(b)).
- Perform, document, and report analytical and qualitative monitoring during a representative storm event (refer
 to Part II, Section B & C).

What has changed since the last renewal?

- Twice per year analytical monitoring of pH, Oil & Grease, Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Copper, Aluminum, Lead, and Zinc.
- Refinements and clarifications to the SPPP requirements (refer to Part II, Section A).
- Tiered response requirements for benchmark exceedences based on analytical results beginning with the monitoring in Year 3 Period 1 (Sample 5), and a requirement that facilities notify the DWQ Regional Office in the event of four benchmark exceedances. **Benchmarks are not limits.**
- Twice per year qualitative monitoring during a representative storm event.
- Requirement to use forms provided by DWQ to record qualitative monitoring results.
- Requirement to submit an annual monitoring summary to the DWQ Regional Office nearest your facility.
- Develop a Solvent Management Plan (refer to Part II, Section A).

What are BMPs and why are they important?

A facility's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan should include Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control the discharge of pollutants from all stormwater outfalls. BMPs include a variety of measures that help minimize the potential for pollutants to enter stormwater that drains from a facility. There are different types of BMPs:

Non-structural (practices or activities) BMPs include:

- Eliminating exposure of materials and equipment whenever possible by moving them to indoor locations.
- Practicing good housekeeping on-site. Handle and store materials at the facility in an orderly fashion.
- Exchanging hazardous materials for non-hazardous ones wherever possible.
- Establishing routine leak and maintenance checks to minimize any chance of spills occurring. Clean up all spills immediately.
- Establishing bulk storage tank protocols that minimize the risk of spills during loading and unloading.
- Maintaining wash pads and keeping them clear of paint chips, debris, and particles.

Structural (equipment or devices) BMPs include:

- Containment dikes around the loading areas of bulk liquid storage containers.
- Roofs and secondary containment around materials so that they are not exposed to stormwater.
- Collection systems around boat wash areas to direct wash water to a holding tank or sanitary sewer.
- Converting from a liquid operation to a dry operation for hull maintenance and cleaning.
- Collection of debris from paint chips in boat maintenance areas to minimize contamination of stormwater.
- Hull maintenance practices that are performed on dry land as far away from the water as possible.

Frequently Asked Questions

Could I be exempt from a NPDES stormwater permit?

Possibly. Facilities with industrial activities subject to NPDES stormwater regulations that eliminate all potential stormwater exposure may be eligible for a No Exposure Exclusion from a permit. Facilities that meet this condition may apply by submitting a No Exposure Certification application (see link below). Facilities must recertify No Exposure status every five years.

What if I sell my business, or the name changes?

This is a minor modification that requires approval of DWQ's director before a permittee is absolved of responsibility for the permit. To request this change, complete and submit a Name/Ownership Change Form SWU-239 (see link below).

Do I have to monitor all the outfalls?

Yes. However, you may request Representative Outfall Status (ROS). If approved, this status allows analytical monitoring at fewer outfalls. To make this request, submit a ROS Request Form (see link below).

Does a certified lab need to analyze my samples?

State certification requirements apply only to wastewater discharges. However, data gathering and monitoring under all NPDES permits must be conducted in accordance with test procedures approved under federal regulations as written in 40 CFR §136. All labs certified by North Carolina perform analysis in accordance with those procedures. Using a certified lab is one way to ensure compliance with your permit. A list of certified labs is available at the DWQ Web site (see link below). Alternatively, you may obtain training for your onsite staff to *measure pH using approved methods that adhere to federal guidelines.

*Note that pH is a *field parameter* and **must** be measured within 15 minutes of the time that a sample is collected.

Can my boat wash water be discharged to or with my stormwater?

No. Boat wash water, whether from hand washing or power washing, is considered **wastewater**. This stormwater permit does not authorize wastewater discharges.

Wastewater is not allowed to mix, or be "diluted", with stormwater for discharge at a stormwater outlet unless permitted by a separate wastewater permit. Once stormwater commingles with wastewater, it is all considered wastewater and must be handled as such.

A separate wastewater permit is required in order discharge wastewater. Some possible alternatives (which may require an additional separate permit) for minimizing wastewater discharge to surface waters include: discharge to a municipal wastewater treatment plant, water recycling, conversion of activities to dry processes which allow for easy clean-up and maintenance and proper disposal of waste generated from industrial activities.

The NCG190000 permit is applicable to a marina that offers vehicle maintenance service, which includes boat cleaning. It is not applicable for an individual washing their own boat at a marina. However, it is highly encouraged that facilities educate and monitor the use of appropriate BMPs by boat owners when washing their boats to minimize potential impacts to surface water.

Where can I get more information?

DWQ online resources:

Stormwater Permitting http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ws/su

Forms (downloadable) http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ws/su/npdessw#Application_Forms_NPDES

Certified Labs http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/lab/cert/certlablists

Map of Regional Offices http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/home

Still have questions? Call the DWQ Regional Office closest to your facility's location:

Asheville Office	(828) 296-4500	Washington Office	(252) 946-6481
Fayetteville Office	(910) 433-3300	Wilmington Office	(910) 796-7215
Mooresville Office	(704) 663-1699	Winston-Salem Office	(336) 771-5000
Raleigh Office	(919) 791-4200	Central Office	(919) 807-6300

Additional resources:

DWQ Marina Outreach and Education Program: http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/swp/ws/cu/marinas
DPPEA Marina Industry Guidance: http://wrrc.p2pays.org/industry/indsectinfo.asp?INDSECT=40
DWQ Stormwater Outreach and Education Program: www.ncstormwater.org
TMDL Information: http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ps/mtu/tmdl

